

~~further so as~~ to simplify the installation and removal of functional units.

[0004] This objective is achieved by the provision of ~~in that~~ in an aircraft that incorporates a cargo compartment with a floor and supporting elements, in particular floor beams to support the cargo-compartment floor and connect it to a body or skin of the aircraft, as well as functional units, in particular water tanks, waste-water tanks, EE racks or similar electronic components, wherein the functional units are arranged on pallets or similar support structures by means of which to transport the functional units into the cargo compartment, and these pallets are provided with fixation devices to create a firm connection to the cargo-compartment floor.

[0005] Hence it is a basis ~~an essential point~~ of the invention that the functional units, which are normally regarded as permanently installed parts of an aircraft, are now considered transportable units that can be moved into and out of the cargo compartment as needed. This completely new way of treating the functional units not only offers major advantages for the construction of an aircraft but also greatly facilitates the maintenance work to be done on the aircraft. In particular, an individual functional unit can be serviced, modified or repaired on its own outside the aircraft, and hence in surroundings where the work can be done considerably more comfortably than in the confines of an aircraft cargo compartment. In addition, the techniques used to work on the functional units can be different from those normally employed inside the (cramped) cargo compartment, i.e. at the place where the functional units are installed.

In paragraph [0019], please delete the paragraph as follows.

[0019] Preferred embodiments of the invention will be apparent from the subordinate claims.

In paragraph [0020], please amend the paragraph as follows.

[0020] ~~In the following, preferred~~ Preferred embodiments of the invention will now be described ~~are explained in greater detail~~ with reference to the accompanying drawings, ~~wherein~~

In paragraph [0021], please amend the paragraph as follows.

[0021] Fig. 1 is a perspective view drawing of part of an aircraft fuselage with a cargo-compartment floor shown mostly installed therein.

#### **Preliminary Amendment: ABSTRACT AMENDMENTS**

On page 17, please amend the paragraph as follows:

~~An~~ ~~In the case of an aircraft comprising~~ ~~a cargo compartment~~ (2) ~~with a cargo-compartment floor~~ (3), supporting elements, ~~in particular floor beams~~ (16) ~~to~~ supporting the cargo-compartment floor (3) and ~~to be~~ connected to a body (1) or a skin (1) of the aircraft, and with at least one functional units, such as ~~in particular~~ a water tanks, a waste-water tanks, an EE racks (56) or similar electronic components. The ~~it is proposed that the functional units be~~ is disposed on a pallets (70) ~~or similar supporting structures~~ in order that ~~to~~ transport the functional units can be transported into the cargo compartment. (2), said The pallets

(70) comprising comprises a fixation means to devices (71) for fixed attachment it to the cargo-compartment floor (3). By this means the assembly of an aircraft, as well as its reconstruction, is considerably facilitated.